Merger of BRPL with IOC

2795. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has received a memorandum on merger of Bongaigaon Refinery with Indian Oil Corporation instead of present status of subsidiary to Indian Oil Corporation; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is not presently considering any proposal in respect of merger of Bongaigaon Refinery with Indian Oil Corporation.

Revision in prices of LPG and Kerosene

2796. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to enhance the prices of LPG and Kerosene to partially offset the subsidy on these products; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) As per the extant Government policy, the subsidies on domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene are to be on a specified flat rate basis from 1st April 2002. The retail prices of these products will then vary as per the price changes in the international oil markets.

Tourism hubs in the country

†2797. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to build a number of tourism hubs simultaneously in the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to include other places of the country in these hubs that are important for tourism;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN: (a) to (e) In order to give a boost to tourism in the country, Department of Tourism has taken initiative to create integrated circuits and destinations which will synthesise the elements of tourism, culture and good civic governance. During the Tenth Plan, it is proposed to develop annually six integrated circuits in the country and a destination in every State/Union Territory. During the current year following six circuits have been identified for development in consultation with the State Governments:

(i) Eastern Region-(Buddhist Circuit): Bodhgaya-Rajgir-Nalanda-Varanasi.

(ii) Northern Region-(Himalayan Circuit):

Route I-Chandigarh-Bilaspur-Kullu-Manali-Rohtang La-Keylong-Sarchu-Upshi-Leh

Route II-Shimla-Sangla-Kaza-Chatru-Keylong-Sarchu-Yashi-Leh.

(iii) Central Circuit-(Heritage, Nature and Wildlife Circuit): Gwalior-Shivpuri-Chanderi-Orcha-Khajuraho-Jhansi-Bhopal-Sanchi and surrounding Buddhist areas-Bhimbetka-Pachmarhi-Kanha Jabalpur (Bhedaghat).

(iv) Western Circuit-(Konkan Riviera Circuit): Bombay-Alibagh (Mandva)-Muradjanjira-Ganapatipule-Vijaydurg-Mithibad-Kunkeshwar-Mochetmad-Sindhudurg-Tarkarli-Shiroda-Savantwadi-Amboli-Goa-Coastal Karnataka-Bekal.

(v) Southern Circuit-(Backwater and Beach Circuit): Cochin-Kumarakom-(Backwaters)-Kottayam-Quilon-Trivandrum (Kovalam).

(vi) North-East Circuit-(Eco-Tourism Circuit): Shillong-Guwahati-Kaziranga-Tezpur-Bhalakpung-Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh)-Majuli-Sibsagar-Kohima.